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ACTION EAP-01

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AID-00	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	OASY-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	EB-01	EUR-01	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-10
	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NEA-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02
	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SP-00	SR-00
	SS-00	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	PRME-01
	PRMC-01	DRL-09	G-00		/035W		
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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8951

INFO AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY HARARE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR  
TAGS: PREL, MOPS, PHUM, BY, AS  
SUBJECT: POTENTIAL INTERVENTION IN BURUNDI -- AUSTRALIA  
WILL CONSIDER QUESTION OF CONTINGENCY PLANNING

REF: STATE 86948

OADR USED BECAUSE TEXT IS BASED ON FOREIGN GOVERNMENT INFORMATION.

1. S - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. AUSTRALIA WILL CONSIDER HOW IT MAY BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR INTERNATIONAL INTERVENTION IN BURUNDI, ACCORDING TO ROB LAURIE, FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR THE SOUTH PACIFIC, AFRICA, AND MIDDLE EAST IN THE DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE.
3. AFTER THE CHARGE MADE REFTEL POINTS APRIL 13, LAURIE COMMENTED THAT THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI IS NOT AN EXACT PARALLEL TO LAST YEAR'S GENOCIDE IN RWANDA BUT CAN NEVERTHELESS LEAD TO SERIOUS INSTABILITY AND MASS EXODUSES. HE AGREED IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE TO THINK OF UNAMIR AS A POTENTIAL RESOURCE FOR INTERVENTION IN BURUNDI, MENTIONING THE AUSSIE MEDICAL UNIT AND COMMENTING ON THE IMPORTANCE OF UNAMIR'S ONGOING OPERATIONS IN RWANDA.

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FM EVANS HAS PARALLEL VIEWS

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4. LAURIE REFERRED TO A MAR. 29 PARLIAMENTARY Q-AND-A (TEXT FAXED TO AF/C AND EAP/ANZ) IN WHICH MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS GARETH EVANS MADE GENERAL POINTS THAT HARMONIZE WITH THE INTENDED USG APPROACH. IN PART, EVANS DECLARED, "IF THE SITUATION DETERIORATES FURTHER AND THE VIOLENCE CONTINUES TO ESCALATE, ANY INTERVENTION BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS GOING TO REQUIRE A

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PEACE ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITY, WITH UNCLASSIFIED  
CHAPTER VII OF THE UN CHARTER."

5. THAT LOGICAL FRAMEWORK, LAURIE SAID, WOULD BE THE BASIS FOR THE GOA'S CONSIDERATION OF PRACTICAL ASPECTS. HE DECLINED TO MAKE ANY COMMITMENTS AT THIS STAGE AND PROMISED TO GET BACK TO US WHEN THE GOA HAS REACHED SPECIFIC CONCLUSIONS. WEAVER

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